

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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Mendocino County Poets Featured in Exhibit at Ford House

(San Francisco, June 27, 2013)—The poetry of two local students will be among that of 47 California students on exhibit from July 4 through the end of September at the Ford House Museum in Mendocino. The students were honored in the 2013 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest for kindergarten through 12th grade students, presented by the California Coastal Commission.

Mendocino 3rd grader Josephine Steinbuck was a winner for her poem "Paradise," and Albion 2nd grader Shea Hendricks received an honorable mention for her poem, "The Stone." Local students' personal connection to the coast allowed them to be well-represented among those recognized in this annual contest, which received 2,260 entries from students throughout California.

Following the Ford House exhibit, the 2013 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest will be on display at the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center in Ventura and Birch Aquarium at Scripps in La Jolla. It previously showed at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Annie Kohut Frankel, California Coastal Commission Education Coordinator, applauds the student artists and poets. "Much of the artwork this year depicts a real sense of joy, with the students' love of our coast and ocean very evident. The poetry ranges from a call to friends to share in play at the beach, to careful observation of coastal processes, to introspection on the ocean as a reflection of the poet's emotions. Each piece tells the individual story of the importance of our precious coast to these young Californians."

The California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest is held annually to encourage youth to reflect on the beauty and spirit of California's beaches and ocean. Through this effort the California Coastal Commission endeavors to inspire a greater sense of appreciation and stewardship for these natural places. For more information about the contest and the Commission's other education programs, visit www.coastforyou.org or call 800-Coast4U. For information about the Ford House Museum, visit www.mendoparks.org or call (707) 937-5397. The Museum is located at 735 Main Street in Mendocino.

Images available upon request. Email Annie.Frankel@coastal.ca.gov or call 415-597-5888.

Paradise

The ocean's glittering turquoise surface
Has no waves
The beach sand
Under my toes
Soft as powdered sugar
And as white
In my dreams that's how it would be
But really

Waves crash against the cliff
Making one piece of rock
Fall off at a time
Creating finally
A deep crevice in the rock
That would be there for ages
Maybe eons
Being a habitat for some animal
Until the ocean decides
That it needs to be deeper
And the sea needs to rise
Lapping even stronger on the ancient cliff

This place is magical

Josephine Steinbuck
3rd grade, Mendocino

The Stone

When I picked up a stone
I realized I saw
Two clouds and
Two mountains and
The ocean.

Shea Hendricks
2nd grade, Albion

The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination. The Coastal Art and Poetry contest is part of its effort to raise public awareness of marine and coastal resources and promote coastal stewardship.

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